

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1050
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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TAGS: PROG EG
SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL ACTION ON YEMEN

SUMMARY. STRONG RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ARAB LEAGUE
COUNCIL AGAINST PDY "FIRST OF THEIR KIND." COUNCIL
ORDERED "FREEZING" OF POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
AND SUSPENDING OF ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS.

EDITORIALISTS FOLLOWING LEAD OF SADAT CONFIDANT
ANIS MANSOUR BLAME SOVIETS FOR YEMENI EVENTS AND
CALL UPON ARABS TO WAKE UP TO SOVIET THREAT COMING FROM
ALL DIRECTIONS. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS HAVE FORMALIZED
EXISTING SPLIT IN ARAB WORLD IN UNPRECEDENTED MANNER.
GOE CAN, HOWEVER, TAKE SOME COMFORT THAT MAJORITY OF
MEMBERS HAVE GONE ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF ITS VIEWS.
END SUMMARY.

1. LEAGUE RESOLUTIONS. AHRAH AND AKHBAR MAIN STORY
JULY 3 WAS OUTCOME OF ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING ON
YEMEN. "RESPONSIBLE ARAB SOURCE" DESCRIBED RESOLU-
TIONS AS "STRONGEST" THAT LEAGUE HAS EVER ADOPTED
AGAINST A MEMBER. RESOLUTIONS CONDEMN ASSASSINATION
OF YAR PRESIDENT GHASHMI AND DENOUNCE THOSE WHO
MASTERMINDED AND EXECUTED THE CRIME; ORDER "FREEZING"
OF MEMBER STATES' POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH PDRY; ORDER "SUSPENSION" OF ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL
RELATIONS AND TECHNICAL AID EXTENDED BY ARAB COUNTRIES
TO PDRY. (AKHBAR REPORTS "OBSERVERS" CONSIDER RESOLU-
TION "CUTTING ECONOMIC AID" BECAUSE PDRY DEPENDS WHOLLY
ON ARAB ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AID.) COUNCIL RESOLVED
TO REVIEW THE ABOVE MEASURES ONLY WHEN PDRY AGREES TO
RESPECT RULES OF ARAB LEAGUE CHARTER. ARAB LEAGUE
SECRETARIAT NOTIFYING THOSE STATES WHICH DID NOT
ATTEND (SYRIA, IRAQ, LYBIA, ALGERIA, DJIBOUTI, PDRY,
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AND PLO).

2. AHRAH EDITORIAL SAID LEAGUE MEETING
DEALS ONLY WITH SURFACE PHENOMENON OF MORE PROFOUND
PROBLEM AFFECTING ARAB SOLIDARITY. MERE CONDEMNATION
OF ACTS OF AGGRESSION, VIOLENCE, AND INTERFERENCE NOT
SUFFICIENT; RATHER COUNCIL SHOULD PROBE THE QUESTION
OF "INTERNAL COLLAPSE" IN ARAB RELATIONSHIPS. WRITING
IN AKHBAR, CHIEF EDITOR AND BOARD CHAIRMAN MOUSSA
SABRI BELIEVES EVEN EXPULSION OF PDRY WOULD NOT BE
ENOUGH FOR IT WILL NOT STOP "SOVIET PLANNING." WHAT
NEEDED IS UNIFORM ARAB STRATEGY TO DETACH PDRY AND
OTHER REJECTIONISTS FROM SOVIET CONNECTION.

3. SADAT CONFIDANT, OCTOBER EDITOR ANIS MANSOUR, WROTE
JULY 2 THAT SADAT SEES NORTH YEMEN AS EGYPT'S BORDER
BECAUSE IT BORDERS ON SAUDI ARABIA WHICH FACES SUDAN'
SADAT HAD TOLD SUDANESE DEL THAT USSR NOW LAYING IN
WAIT FOR EGYPT, SUDAN, AND SAUDI ARABIA. MANSOUR GOES
ON TO SAY INFLAMED BELT ENCIRCLING AFRICA AND AMERICA
IS STANDING WITH INDIFFERENCE BEFORE IT ALL. THE
ARABS MUST WAKE UP TO FACT THAT SOVIETS ARE COMING

FROM YEMEN AND ETHIOPIA FROM THE EAST, THE WEST, AND
THE NORTH."

4. COMMENT. FOLLOWING MANSOUR (I.E. SADAT) LEAD,
EDITORIALS PUT YEMEN SITUATION IN WIDER CONTEXT OF SOVIET/
CUBAN ACTIVITIES WHICH RESPONSIBLE FOR DISRUPTING ARAB
UNITY TOGETHER WITH "REJECTIONISTS" WHO ALLOWING IT
TO HAPPEN. EVEN THOUGH RESOLUTIONS STOPPED SHORT F
ORDERING PDRY EXPULSION AND WILL BE IGNORED BY
"REJECTIONISTS," THEY HAVE FORMALIZED EXISTING SPLIT
IN ARAB WORLD IN UNPRECEDENTED MANNER AND BODE ILL
FOR EFFECTIVE ACTION BY LEAGUE IN LEBANON OR
ELSEWHERE IN FUTURE. EGYPT CAN, HOWEVER, TAKE SOME
COMFORT THAT MAJORITY OF MEMBERS WILLING TO GO ON
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RECORD IN SUPPORT OF ITS STRONG VIEW THAT SOVIETS BEHIND
YEMENI EVENT, AND SOUTH YEMEN NOW TOOL OF SOVEITS.
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